

November 2000

KORUS

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U-2s

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unique crew*

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Seoul Land offers fun*

KORUS

The Only Peninsula-Wide Publication for USFK Members

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Cover

Maj. Jeff Olesen, U-2 pilot with 99th Reconnaissance Squadron, is escorted to his aircraft by Senior Airman Shannon L. Wootten, aerospace physiology technician, 5th Reconnaissance Squadron.

Photo by Pfc. Nicole C. Adams



Features

Zanini heads up EUSA



The new Eighth U.S. Army Commander, Lt. Gen. Daniel R. Zanini, shares his thoughts about his new assignment in Korea. **Page 20**

EUSA band participates at Tattoo

The Eighth U.S. Army Band struts its stuff during the Kangwon International Tattoo Festival, performing alongside other military bands from 14 countries. **Page 21**



Seoul Land, Korea's amusement park



Having a charm all its own, Seoul Land is an amusement park offering more than 40 different rides and a variety of activities. **Page 28**

Departments & Features

News and Notes, Page 4-5

Command Huddle, Page 6

Commander's Sensing Session, Page 8

Remembering the "Forgotten" War, Page 13

Represent USFK, Page 16

See **KORUS** online at <http://www.korea.army.mil/pao/korus/korus.htm>

Zanini takes command of EUSA



Courtesy photo

Lt. Gen. Daniel J. Petrosky, outgoing commanding general of Eighth United States Army passes the colors onto Lt. Gen. Daniel R. Zanini during a change of command ceremony held Sept. 28 at Knight Field.

Petrosky leaves Korea after serving two years concurrently as chief of staff, United Nations Command, Combined Forces Command and United States Forces Korea.

See Gen. Zanini interview Page 20.

E-5s authorized to drive POVs

As of Aug. 8, 2000, all E-5s stationed in most areas of Korea (excluding Area 1) are permitted to have a privately owned vehicle.

The change resulted after Gen. Thomas A. Schwartz, commander United States Forces Korea, held a sensing session with junior noncommissioned officers. Shortly after the session the commander in chief initiated the change.

Previously, E-6s and above, along with command sponsored military families were the only eligible drivers. The new policy does not affect E-4s and below.

One vehicle is allowed per E-5 family and above, and must be insured. Insurance can be purchased off post

from several providers but most places require a full year's payment up front. Those wishing to take advantage of this opportunity should first check with their chain of command, local vehicle registration office or drivers testing station for any special instructions.

Once approved for a vehicle, the individual needs to take his military identification card and stateside driver's license to his local drivers testing station for a license. After purchasing a vehicle, he must take the bill of sale, proof of insurance, drivers license and vehicle (with current registration) to the vehicle registration facility after it has passed a safety inspection.

EUSA teams place at Army 10 Miler

The Eighth U.S. Army Male and Female Ten Miler Teams earned third place honors in their respective divisions. Over 16,000 runners participated in the 16th Annual Army Ten Mile Race held Oct. 16. Fort Carson's male team earned first place honors while Fort Bragg's female team earned first place honors

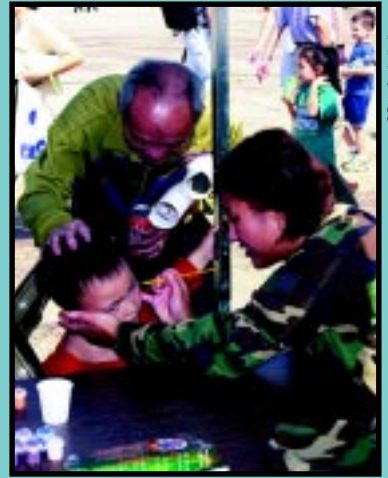
in the female division. EUSA individual honors are as follows:

SFC Juan Colunga, 46th Trans - Third Place, Age Group 30-39.

Col. Steven Anderson, DISCOM CDR - Second Place, Age Group 40-44.

Maj. Linda Sheimo, 509th PSB - Third Place, Age Group 40-44.

Osan opens gates to community



SSgt. Andy Balamy

Senior Airman Sung-Suk Sa-Lewis, 303rd Intelligence Squadron, (Above) applies a face-paint design on a young Korean spectator as a relative looks on during the Osan Air Base Open House Oct. 7.

More than 20,000 people turned out when Osan opened its gates to the local Korean population for Open House 2000.

The open house showcased U.S. Air Force and other Department of Defense services' missions in the Pacific theater, as well as the Republic of Korea military.

It was the first open house Osan has held for quite some time, according to Maj. Kevin O'Day, open house project officer.

The Air Force Band of the Pacific-Asia and Republic of Korea air force band played.

The ROK drill team and 51st Security Forces Squadron performed.

Plans have been made to have an open house in 2001 to include an air show, according to base officials. (Compiled from MiG Alley Flyer staff reports)

SECDEF visits Wolfpack

KUNSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea — U.S. military forces forward-deployed to the Korean peninsula are why South Korea's president can extend peace initiatives to North Korea, the Secretary of Defense told about 300 howling Wolf Pack members at an aircraft hangar here Sept. 21.

"When we see the kind of peace initiatives that President Kim Dae-jung is able to make, he's only able to do that because you are the muscle behind that proposal," said William Cohen.

The secretary stopped to visit Kunsan troops during a six-nation Asian-Pacific trip.

"This is one of the most important places on the face of the earth in terms of contributing to the preservation of peace and stability," Cohen said. "I know that (Kunsan) is a warrior base."

In addition to being warriors, the secretary said that each Wolf Pack member, and all Korea-based U.S. servicemembers, are diplomats who shape the political environment by virtue



Senior Airman Sarayuth Plithong

Secretary of Defense William Cohen talks with Tech. Sgt. Willard McConnell, 8th Communications Squadron, during a visit to Kunsan Air Base recently.

of their professionalism.

"I am proud to say, we have the finest military force in the world today," he said. U.S. forces are the best educated, led and equipped, he said. And he wants to keep it that way.

"All of you are out here, as we say, "at the tip of the spear," for long periods of time with separation from

your families," he said. Military members are here because they are concerned about America's welfare and are prepared to make great sacrifices, he said.

"We are truly indebted to you. America is truly grateful for everything you do," Cohen said closing his remarks to Kunsan's enthusiastic troops.

Northern Campaigns Commemoration Ceremony

The commander Marine Forces Korea will host the Northern Campaigns Commemoration Ceremony for the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Nov. 11 at 9:30 a.m. on Knight Field. The purpose of the Commemoration is to thank and honor Korean War Veterans and their families; especially those who lost loved ones in that war.

Although official guest speakers have not been finalized officials promise a memorable experience.

Parking is limited and will be available on a first come, first serve basis.

For more information call U.S. Marine Forces Korea's 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Committee at 723-4113. Or visit the web site at www.marfork.usmc.mil.

The event will culminate that evening with the 225th Marine Corps Birthday Ball.

Information about tickets can be found at Marine Forces Korea's web site.



Courtesy photo

Medic! Medic!

Sgt. Martin Lee, HHC, 2nd Battalion, 72nd Armor, team leader from Camp Casey Troop Medical Clinic evaluates a patient during a recent Expert Field Medical Competition at Camp Casey. Lee went on to win first place at the Army-wide EFMC at Fort Sam Houston, Texas held Oct. 2-6.

Quality of Life

by Gen. Thomas A. Schwartz

My theme for this huddle with you is 'Quality of Life.' I strongly believe that quality of life supports warfighting readiness. The reason quite simply is that servicemembers perform better when their families' needs, as well as their own expectations, are met. There is a valid reason why we balance quality of life with training and infrastructure – it produces a balanced approach to caring for our people. We call this balanced readiness.

It is through balanced readiness we stay trained and ready without breaking our people or our equipment. But more importantly, balanced readiness enables us to focus on people while we improve aging infrastructure and utilities. This year alone, we have added millions of dollars to improve quality of life through facility and utility upgrades.

As I have told servicemembers during recent sensing sessions, achieving a good balance is tough business. Your quality of life is important to us and it is a priority for all of us. I assure you we are working these issues very hard. But these issues require tough decisions. As you know, I have an obligation to provide an adequate quality of life for all servicemembers and their families. When a servicemember gets orders authorizing him or her to bring dependents, there is an expectation that their needs will be met. But this has not always been true in the past.

The shortage of on-post housing, in particular, placed an undue burden on many families. We were not meeting their needs and this caused morale problems. The decision to reduce the number of accompanied tours allows us time to build more housing and support facilities to meet the needs of servicemembers and their families that we command sponsor. This makes more sense. If we command sponsor you, we have a moral obligation to

provide an adequate quality of life for you and your dependents.

If you look around you will see quality of life improvements underway around the peninsula. The challenge, of course, is that we have 95 installations, support sites, and training areas in Korea with varying quality of life issues. Our plan is to gain efficiencies where possible and consolidate our facilities where necessary. In the meantime, our plans to replace outdated infrastructure and improve work, living, and play areas continues on schedule.

Since servicemembers often say "show me!" Let me give you some prime examples of how we plan to invest \$518.6 million in new construction for Quality of Life improvements over the next three years (FY 01 – 03):

- Osan Air Base — \$113.8M (housing, improve water system and dormitories)
- Kunsan Air Base — \$33.7M (dormitories, fitness center and upgrade water system)
- K-16 - \$41M (new barracks)
- Camp Humphreys - \$131.0M (housing, electrical upgrade, barracks)
- Camp Henry - \$37.0M (improve water system and new barracks)
- Camp Casey and Hovey - \$105.8M (dining facility, barracks and sewer upgrade)
- Yongsan – 13M (new barracks)

Through these kinds of initiatives we enhance readiness and promote pride in our organizations.

As I said, 'Quality of Life' supports Warfighting Readiness. We must explore bold, innovative, and creative solutions to resolve quality of life issues in our barracks, dining facilities, medical facilities, and recreational activities. These key areas demonstrate to our servicemembers and their families that we truly care! It also demonstrates that our servicemembers and families count – *You bet they count!*



Gen. Thomas A. Schwartz

Commander: U.S. Forces Korea

Commander in Chief: United Nations Command and ROK/U.S. Combined Forces Command

Needless to say we enlist servicemembers and reenlist families. There can be no question that military families have the majority vote in a servicemembers decision to reenlist.

Therefore, I need the help of all leaders to demonstrate in measurable terms that quality of life issues are important. Ensure your people know that you are aware of the many sacrifices they make to serve their country. Ensure they know you care – not just by your words, but also by your actions.

Gen. Carl Vuono, former U.S. Army chief of staff, put it best when he said, "... to the officers and NCOs who truly care about their servicemembers – their folks will give back tenfold."

I truly believe this statement. I believe that every dollar we spend is an *investment* in the future of our military. For every dollar we spend on quality of life our servicemembers will return with interest ten times what we invested.

Again, Our most vital resource is our servicemembers and their families. They sacrifice so much and ask for so little. Our job as leaders is to show servicemembers how much we care, not by what we say, but what we do!

My goal is to make Korea the assignment of choice – recognized as such throughout our military. With your help we can realize this important goal.

Let me end by saying that I am very proud of each and every one of you. Thank you for proudly serving our nation.

CINC tackles USFK quality of life issues

(Editor's Note: This article addresses the issues and concerns of military forces serving within U.S. Forces Korea. USFK Commander, Gen. Thomas A. Schwartz, routinely visits the soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines stationed around the peninsula and conducts sensing sessions to receive feedback on issues ranging from military service to quality of life. Gen. Schwartz seeks to make serving in Korea an assignment of choice and uses Sensing Sessions as a means to focus the USFK and service component commanders and staffs. The following topics were raised during recent visits. Since April 2000, personnel have asked the CINC 82 questions, resulting in 60 USFK issues. This article contains responses from four sensing sessions from April to July. There are certain issues that require further research and will become ongoing. We will report in future articles other responses as they are received. Quality of life issues are also addressed in the Command Huddle Page 6.)

Issue: *Can you elaborate about the recent meeting between the leaders of South and North Korea?*

Response: The historic June Summit exceeded all expectations. This new dialogue with the North is an attempt to reduce tensions and begin the transition to lasting peace and ultimate reunification. Little has changed in the meantime. President Kim, Dae Jung strongly supports keeping our ROK-U.S. alliance strong and ready; therefore, we must remain vigilant and be prepared to fight tonight and win, if deterrence fails.

Issue: *The number of Automated Teller Machines is limited and creates long lines during peak usage hours. Further, they run out of money often and charge a usage fee of \$1.50 to review balances and other transactions.*

Response: Expanding ATM service is something your community commanders can request. Let them know where you want them. Currently, we have 49 ATMs in Korea with 7 replaced each year as part of our normal modernization process. We only have one installation with a pending request (Camp Carroll). Bank officials report that ATMs rarely run out of money. The main problems are weather related,

electrical power fluctuations, and poor telephone lines. The bank does keep two on-call employees available to replenish ATMs.

Furthermore, Community Bank personnel perform routine/emergency maintenance and currency replenishment during the hours of 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., per contract. Community Bank does not charge an ATM usage fee on its machines; however, your stateside bank may. Please check with your hometown bank.

Issue: *Sergeant's Time is not being enforced. It was for a short time, but it is now forgotten.*

Response: You have identified an issue that speaks directly about leadership. We have thousands of great NCO leaders who do this right everyday. We will work this issue across the peninsula so we can ensure that we fix it. EUSA Policy Letter #13 directs commanders to conduct Sergeant's Time Training within their command every Thursday while in garrison. They will also release their soldiers at 4 p.m. for Soldier's Time.

Issue: *Servicemembers on separate rations do not have adequate facilities for cooking in their barracks/*

dormitories. What is being done to improve barracks/dormitories to help solve this situation?

Response: Cooking facilities in future barracks are a major command priority. Under the Barracks Upgrade Program, we have an aggressive strategy to solve this problem by 2008 when each barracks room will have a refrigerator and microwave.

Issue: *Barracks overcrowding is a big problem. What is being done to fix this situation?*

Response: We have an aggressive program to solve this problem by 2008. We have requested \$234 million per year to provide steady funding to improve our infrastructure and quality of life. We are working this issue aggressively and we are making progress.

Issue: *Why can't unaccompanied service members in grades E-5 and below not have privately owned vehicles or POV licenses while stationed in Korea, without going through a waiver process?*

Response: I directed that current USFK policy be expanded to include E-5s. As of Aug. 7, the U.S. Forces Korea Provost Marshal lowered eligibility requirements under USFK Regulation 190-1. This measure grants E-5s the same procedures as E-6s for POV licensing and privileges. This is the first relaxation of the POV policy since 1996. Remember, driving in Korea requires the highest regard for safety. Please use common sense at all times.

Issue: *Why can't the Eighth U.S. Army provide Defense Switched Network and off-post "99" service to every soldier living in the barracks?*

Response: This is an issue we are actively working, but funding remains the largest hurdle. For example, it will cost about \$800 million to wire every barracks room. We simply do not have the money for this. In the short-term,

Continued on Page 12

the MWR Cable Television/Internet/Telephone program offers the best option for success. MWR plans to install its own cable path into barracks around the peninsula.

This project is in the contracting phase with a possible Fiscal Year 01 implementation date.

We've already spent \$10 million for Internet access for new barracks. In the long term, we will continue to pursue the funds to upgrade cabling to support unofficial Class B lines (personal telephones) to the already upgraded "Official Business Only" DSN switches.

This was done by EUSA in FY99. Furthermore, we are spending \$2.5 million per year to upgrade telephone cabling in renovated barracks on installations with a population of 1,000 or greater.

Issue: *Why are we having problems retaining soldiers? Is it Pay? Assignments? Our Branch Managers are telling soldiers to suck-it up.*

Response: This is a very good question. Recruiting and retaining our very best servicemembers is always a top priority. In fact, we continue to exceed quarterly retention goals in Korea.

With regards to pay, Congress has approved another 3.7 percent raise next year; however, targeted pay raises for NCOs is one of our key concerns. We are working with our senior military leadership to seek Congressional support in this matter. As far as multiple overseas tours, I believe this is creating turbulence, which impacts both soldiers and families.

However, Department of the Army Policy requires a one-for-one stabilization tour for all soldiers deployed for contingency missions to help reduce turbulence. We are requesting DA implement a similar policy for Korea permanent change of station soldiers.

Issue: *Army sergeants are working at a pay grade above as we deploy and lead soldiers in locations across the globe. Our raters say the job will show well on our NCO Evaluation Reports. The issue is not NCOERs, but promotion points.*

Response: I will work on this with other Army senior leaders. The Army is short E-5s and is reflected here in Korea. This means about 15 percent of our SGT/E-5 positions are filled by E-4s or E-6s, both of which are somewhat over-strength in Korea.

Issue: *Can we get a tax exemption when serving overseas?*

Response: I am working this issue with the chain of command and our elected representatives. You must have a Presidential Order to authorize tax exemption. We think we can build a case for tax exemption for servicemembers here in Korea, especially given the existing law which provides contractors and non-DoD employees tax free income up to \$76,000 this year (Foreign Earned Income Exclusion).

This is part of our efforts to improve our quality of life and make Korea an assignment of choice.

Issue: *Why do joint domicile soldiers lose so much money when they are assigned to Korea? Where is the concern for the family members that remain in CONUS?*

Response: Kids count! Families count! House payments don't stop! The average married soldier (E-5, married/kids) who PCS's to Korea from Ft. Riley loses about \$60 per month on their LES in exchange for meals and barracks.

Sixty dollars a month is the difference between losing Basic Allowance for Subsistence and gaining Hazardous Duty Pay, partial BAS, and Foreign Service Allowance. The same soldier who deploys to a combat zone in Kosovo gains \$367 due to tax-breaks and rules which

allow him/her to keep his BAS due to a 3-9 month temporary change of station.

We are actively exploring tax-breaks for soldiers stationed in Korea, including the Foreign Earned Income Exclusion, enjoyed by contractors and non-U.S. government civilian workers.

Issue: *Soldiers perceive a difference between the standard of living between units stationed to the north and to the south. (Example: Camp Stanley vice K-16.)*

Response: Upgrading our facilities and quality of life is a major command priority. The Barracks Upgrade Program is currently underway along with efforts at reducing some of our 95 bases, camps, and posts to the right number over the next few years.

We will emphasize improvement on those installations we think we will keep. This will allow for more efficiencies and quality of life improvements, while meeting all of our warfighting requirements.

Issue: *Can you establish a centralized married soldier's barracks?*

Why can't married joint domicile soldiers live together? Why can't they set aside a joint domicile barracks to accommodate these soldiers?

Response: The 2nd Infantry Division commander, Area I, and the 19th Theater Support Command are implementing a pilot program for married soldiers in Area I. The pilot locations are at Camp Red Cloud and Camp Casey.

At Camp Red Cloud, an upcoming Barracks Upgrade Program renovation will have its first floor dedicated to married soldiers.

Fixing this will improve quality of life for our married soldiers and potentially reduce the number of barracks space we would require.

Remembering the “Forgotten” War

A volunteer turned hero

Story by Pfc. Nicole C. Adams

For retired Col. Ola R. Mize, volunteering to go to Korea during the ‘Korean police action’ was simply a chance to find out what war was all about. He never imagined his thirst for experience would earn him a Medal of Honor.

He offered to extend after his first term ended as long as he would be able to go to the front lines in Korea.

“I just wanted to see what it was all about, and I found out really quick,” Mize said.

Shortly after Christmas of 1952, Mize, a sergeant at the time, was assigned to Company K, 15th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division, feeling well prepared and ready to fight.

A little more than seven months after his arrival, when his unit was sent to defend ‘Outpost Harry’, a strategically valuable position, near Surang-ni, Mize made military history.

When heavy attack was launched on his platoon, Mize sprung into overdrive.

He learned that a comrade on a friendly listening post had been wounded. He and a medic made their way through an intense barrage of machine gun fire to rescue the soldier and return to the main post.

Once returned, he established a system of defense that helped to inflict heavy casualties against attacks from the enemy assault that had penetrated the trenches of the outpost area. He continued fighting and repelling hostile attacks until the enemy onslaught had ceased.

He then moved his few men from bunker-to-bunker, firing and throwing grenades at the foe, neutralizing their position.

Mize, shouting words of encouragement, went to each of his men to distribute ammunition. It was at that point that he noticed a friendly machine gun position that had been overrun. He single-handedly fought his way to the position, killing 10 of the enemy and scaring off the rest.

He then made his way back to the command post where he found several buddies wounded and took a position to protect them.

He found a radio that helped him to notify friendly troops of the enemy’s routes of approach thus aiding in artillery fire.

Finally at dawn, he helped regroup for a counterattack that successfully drove the enemy from the outpost.

During the battle, he had been blown down by artillery and grenade blasts three times, none of which stopped his heroic counterattack.

Having little ammunition and no artillery support did not stop him or the platoon either.

Because peace talks were going on between North and South Korea, the troops were ordered to stay back until the North Koreans had built up in number and moved closer and they had no choice but to push forward. They fought within close range using bayonets, grenades and M-16s.

“They hit us on three sides. That’s hand to hand fighting for 15 hours.”

He said that his airborne training and adrenaline gave him courage during their long advance.

“I had three years of good training in combat before I got here. You are never really trained to the extent that you are going to fight but (when in combat) you don’t have time to think. It’s natural to you to do it. You don’t have time to think about it, they are swarming all over.”

But the training isn’t the only thing he attributes to his courage. He said Jesus Christ was his strongest influence.

“I couldn’t thank the Lord enough if I thanked him every second of my life.”

“A lot of fine young men died on that hill, and those who lived had their lives changed forever. You see a young lad blown to pieces who was like a brother, and it takes a toll inside.”

Through all of this, he doesn’t regret anything and is eternally grateful for what the military gave him during his years.

“I had a wonderful life in the military. I can’t live long enough to pay my dues to the military.”

Mize went above and beyond his call of duty, according to his Medal of Honor citation, earning him the “highest award for valor in action against an enemy force which can be bestowed upon an individual serving in the Armed Services of the United States.”

But even this short excerpt will call for some correction from Mize who feels that he did not earn the MOH on his own.

“I’m not a Medal of Honor recipient. My whole platoon is. I never have believed the phrase ‘I can do this.’ If I could, there wouldn’t be a whole platoon to do it.”

Mize earned his Medal of Honor for the actions that took place June 10-11, 1953. A month and a half later, the ‘police action’ was declared a war. Mize returned home from the war in 1954, having gotten his ‘chance’, and surpassed his expectations, to “see what the war was all about.”



Col. Ola R. Mize

Every month the KORUS staff travels throughout the peninsula searching for stories to spark our readers' interest. Inevitably, many individuals who are vital to the U.S. Forces Korea mission will be left out of our coverage, but occasionally a few will be given the chance to...

Represent USFK

Compiled by Pfc. Nicole C. Adams and Pfc. Edgar R. Gonzalez

Spc. Agnes D. Kirkman-Bey, a medical specialist, has been in Korea for six months and is with Co. B, 168th Medical Bn. Troop Medical Clinic on Yongsan.

Hometown: Des Plains, Ill.

What do you like most about Korea?

"Shopping! It's cheap and you can almost copy and custom make anything that you want."

What is your job within the unit and what do you like about it? "I'm the assistant noncommissioned officer in charge of immunizations. I see a lot of folks, new personnel. I like the patient interaction and that this is a self-efficient shop where no one stands over you."

What is your unit's mission? "We support Yongsan during ceremonies with a medic, and take care of soldiers by providing many medical services."

Who is the person you respect most in your unit? "Sgt Marie Jeffery because she is straight to the point."



Photo by Pfc. Nicole C. Adams

Agnes D. Kirkman-Bey

How long have you been working for/with the military and where have you served? "I've been in for nine months. This is my first duty station."

What is your dream duty station?

"Landstuhl, Germany. I love living in Europe. I've been there and I know people are friendly and you can go to different places like Paris and London."

What is the most interesting thing you have seen or done while in Korea? "Korea is a lot like the Philippines and they drive crazy but this is worse. The motorcycles put anything on the backs and use it like a cargo truck and the roads are made so small and you really have to have a small care."

Your parting shot: "Instead of making your assignment miserable, just learn to enjoy it. I learned more about the country, culture and people. You have to have a good attitude."

Petty Officer 1st Class Darhyl K. Jester, the Admin leading petty officer supervisor, has been in Yongsan since January of this year with the commander, U.S. Naval Forces Korea.

Hometown: Atlanta, Ga.

What do you like most about Korea?

"Shopping. You can't beat the prices here. I've bought mink blankets, clothes, leather jackets, all kinds of stuff for myself and friends back home."

What do you like about your job within the unit? "We are in charge of all official correspondence coming and leaving the command. It's busy work, but it's fun work. The fun part is providing service for our shipments."

What is your unit's mission? "We are the direct representative in Korea for the commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet and commander, 7th Fleet."

Who is the person you respect most in your unit? It's hard to choose one person. There are several people here I admire. Each person's job is important, and I respect them



Pfc. Edgar R. Gonzalez

Darhyl K. Jester

for the manner in which they handle themselves.

How long have you been in the military? "I just went over 16 years of service in June. I first served in San Diego on the USS Okinawa, and I just came from the Naval Technical Training Center Detachment at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio."

Where would you love to serve? "Naval Air Station Jacksonville. It's close to home, and Florida is where I went to boot camp. So when I get ready to retire, I'd love to end my service where I began it."

What is the most interesting thing you have seen while in Korea? The driving; it's something else. Driving through Itaewon during rush hour is like being at an amusement park.

Your parting shot: If you want to experience a different culture, come to Korea. It's history is so rich and diverse, the people here are so focused and hard working, it's really a marvel to see.

***The Kangwon
International
Tattoo Festival
gets rocked by...***

The EUSA Band

***Story and photos by
Pfc. Edgar R. Gonzalez***

Military bands from 14 different countries treated thousands of cheering fans to a feast for their senses throughout the two-week-long Kangwon International Tattoo festival held in Wonju in early October.

The Eighth U.S. Army Band got a chance to strut its stuff for the receptive audience as they performed during the last day of the event. They began by marching and playing side by side a ROK military band.

"It was nice to see them perform together," said Park, Yung Jun, who brought his two young children to the festival. "I'm glad my children will grow up in this new world of more peace and understanding. This is what this festival is about."

That the festival was a success was evidenced by the mass of hugging, picture taking and general harmony participants enjoyed after the closing ceremonies.

"It goes to show that music is music, it's an international language that doesn't need words," said Staff Sgt. Gary D. Harris, the saxophone section leader with the EUSA Band. "Music can touch anyone's heart."

Harris certainly touched many people's hearts during his rendition of James Brown's "Living in the USA." His enthusiasm and energy was perhaps matched only by the energy and enthusiasm of the audience he was treating it to.

"It's a rush, man," he said. "Yeah, you get the butterflies in the stomach. There would be something wrong if you didn't. Just like in a race, if you don't feel that twinge in your stomach, that extra excitement, you aren't going to win."

It often seemed like everyone was a winner.

"It's an incredible satisfaction to know that we train and train for this, and then it comes off flawlessly," said Sgt. Maj. Donald J. Lloyd, the EUSA Band sergeant major.



Sgt. 1st Class Ted A. LeSueur (right), the EUSA Band's drum major, stands next to the ROK band's drum major while the ROK band prepares to march behind them.

"Then when you see the audience's reaction, it sends chills up your spine."

And the fact that the audience was also comprised of fellow musicians made it that much more exciting.

"It's nice, maybe even a little more meaningful, knowing that other musicians are out there," said Staff Sgt. Andrew Drennan, a trombone player. "You want to represent yourself well, and you know they can probably appreciate your work more than a person with no musical experience. It pushes you to another level."

Drennan wasn't alone in that zone.

He was there with Cpl. Park, Sang Chul, a singer with the EUSA Band. He led the EUSA Band in two songs, making the audience scream and cheer with his theatrical dance moves.

"This is awesome," he said. "As a KATUSA, this is my job. I promote harmony and understanding between the U.S. and Korea. I think it was fantastic for the audience to hear me sing Korean pop tunes with an American band. I know it was fantastic for me. I'm very, very happy to be a KATUSA."

As happy, perhaps, as Wonju was to host the festival. Classes were let out so students could attend, bands were lodged at no expense and the seats were always packed.

"This was a very big deal for us," said Kwon, Jung Hyun, one of the local photographers hired to record the festival. "We are kind of a rural city, so it is a great honor to have so many great nations come here and perform together."

Introducing Daniel Zanini

your new EUSA commander



Spec. Heather N. Wilson

by Pfc. Edgar R. Gonzalez

With the roar of cannons filling the air in preparation for Eighth U.S. Army's change-of-command ceremony, Lt. Gen. Daniel R. Zanini, the incoming EUSA commander, briskly walked into his office, managing to steer through his busy schedule to grab this opportunity to introduce himself to the soldiers he plans to lead to an even better tomorrow.

"I'm proud to be their leader," he said. "I'm excited about serving in Korea and being a part of the ROK-U.S. alliance. And I hope each soldier in Eighth U.S. Army is as excited about his or her assignment as I am of mine. I look forward to meeting them out where they work, play and live."

Having been both an enlisted soldier and a commissioned officer, Zanini has the requisite experiences to relate to his soldiers.

"I was drafted," he said, "and early on what I wanted to do was get as much out of the Army as I could." For him, that meant going to Officer Candidate School. Still, a life in the military was by no means a certainty.

"My wife and I made the commitment to stay as long as the Army was fun, as long as the Army gave us meaningful work to do and as long as we were making contributions," he said. "We've stayed in now for over 30 years."

What does he ask of his soldiers?

"The Army Values we all carry on

our dog tags really describe what we look for in everyone," he said.

And, he feels a special regard for the noncommissioned officer corps.

"NCOs are the most important folks in the Army. We used to say they were the 'backbone,'" he said. "I don't think that's a valid description. They are more than a backbone. They are more like the skeleton: they go throughout. They are the heart and soul of the Army. It's around the NCO corps that the Army is built."

Taking care of soldiers is important, he said, "because if NCOs are the skeleton of the Army, then soldiers are the flesh. They make us what we are. They make us whole."

And to better understand the needs of his soldiers, Zanini plans to continue to use their feedback to improve their time in Korea.

The problem, according to Zanini, is that too many people have the wrong impression about serving in Korea. "People remember the stories from folks who served here during the Korean War or 15 years ago."

Korea has changed a great deal since then.

"We have to share the vision of the

"I hope each soldier in Eighth U.S. Army is as excited about his or her assignment as I am of mine."

Korea we see today with soldiers, airmen, sailors and Marines all over the services so that they are as eager to come here as we are proud to be here," he said.

Still, as important as it is to improve Korea's image and servicemembers' quality of life, the primary mission is warfighting. "Korea is one of our last frontiers," he

said. "It's the only place we have soldiers on watch 24-hours a day and where they might be called on to fight tonight. So warfighting readiness is job one."

Yet, the recent meetings between North and South Korea encourage him.

"I think about it all the time," he said. "You can't help but think about it. It's really a great period of opportunity for the Korean people. It has the potential to be a great moment, similar to when the wall came down in central Europe at the end of the cold war."

Though we may be at the brink of success, Zanini knows there is still much hard work that's left to be done.

"The North Korean Army is still positioned just north of the DMZ," he said. "So this is not a time to be anything but ready. We owe it to ourselves and we owe it to the ROK-U.S. alliance to remain vigilant. We also must do everything we can to help the ROK and North Koreans reach a compromise."

And while servicemembers are stationed here working toward that goal, Zanini has advice for them for

how to get along in this foreign land.

"We have to respect Korean culture and their way of life," he said. "If we do that, and we do it in a friendly way, the vast majority of people will respond accordingly, and

we'll have an opportunity for real progress."

Which, after all, is what has kept him satisfied and fulfilled in the Army all this time.

"I look forward to the challenges. I hope every soldier in Eighth U.S. Army looks forward to the challenges they face, and I hope they have as much joy in meeting them as I do."

Flying higher...

**Story and photos by
Pfc. Nicole C. Adams**

Flying twice as high as a typical airliner, and at more than 475 miles an hour, U-2 Reconnaissance aircraft pilots show no fear while flying on the edge...

The pilots seem to enjoy the challenge and opportunity to fly these few, esteemed machines.

While at classified altitudes, chances are a U-2 pilot is the highest person in the world, only lower to an astronaut. That person gets to see the actual shape and curvature of the earth, something that most people can

only see through pictures.

"You kind of feel detached from the cares of the world. You have a God's eye perspective of earth. You don't see any boundaries, political or man made," said Maj. Guy Neddo, director of operations, 5th Reconnaissance Squadron, Osan Air Base.

From learning to fly the challenging structure, affectionately known as the Dragon Lady, with its 103-foot wingspan, to wearing a unique 50-pound flight suit, these people have a mission all their own.

"It's the most exciting, important mission in the Air Force," said Lt. Col. Greg A. Kern, commander 5th RS.

That mission is to provide continuous day

or night, high altitude surveillance of an area to provide critical intelligence to decision makers through all phases of conflict.

The one-man team, the pilot, collects many forms of intelligence, including radar and visual pictures. Once information gets to the ground the information is collected, analyzed and then given to the "deep-look eyes and ears of the intelligence collection," Kern said.

"We provide communications between airplane and ground to transmit information to ground almost instantaneously," said Maj. Chris C. McCann, 99th Reconnaissance Squadron, Beale Air Force



U-2 mis

A flight crew runs out to the U-2 reconnaissance aircraft, leaning on its side after landing, to help steady the plane by adding pogos to the wings.

Base, Calif.

"The typical life for U-2 pilots is TDY for two months, home for two months. I was TDY for seven to eight months last year. I actually volunteered to come to Korea to be with my family for two years," Neddo said.

Along with Neddo are two U-2 line officers, also pilots assigned to the squadron. Most of the maintainers and support personnel are stationed in Korea for one to two years. The remaining pilots are assigned for 60-day TDYs.

But you won't hear the pilots complain about their extensive time away.

"There aren't too many people in the world who get to do what we do," McCann said. Pilots receive a patch to distinguish their skills. "There are

more people with Super Bowl rings than with the patches," McCann said.

Pilots endure a very different training process

when learning to fly the U-2 because of the suit they must wear.

Because of the high elevation that the plane flies at, the pilots must wear a suit and helmet, similar to a space uniform that keeps their body properly pressurized and maintains body temperature.

"The pilot has to wear the suit because at the high altitudes, his system fluids would boil," said Staff Sgt. Mandeep P. Joval, 9th Physiological Support Training Squadron.

The addition of the 50-pound suit is an added challenge for the pilots.

"You have to relearn how to fly the airplane. The full pressure suit makes everything twice as difficult. We are taught to fly by feel," McCann said.

On flight day, pilots begin a dress process an hour and fifteen minutes prior to departure.

Two technicians and one supervisor are required for the dress process, ensuring proper fit and wear, then oxygen pre-breathing begins. This process lasts for an hour and is

necessary

to expel the majority of nitrogen out of the bloodstream so the pilot doesn't experience a the bends, a sometimes fatal disorder marked by neuralgic pain and paralysis, breathing difficulty and often collapse.

At the conclusion of the suit-up and pre-breathing, the pilot is lead to his U-2, where a team of over 100 people, from maintenance to life support, has made the flight, or sortie, possible, and it is time for take off.

The aircraft is not the only one who takes off. A 'mobile', another U-2 pilot driving a Camaro, chases behind the plane during take-off communicating with the pilot. Mobile officers are necessary because the pilot can't see the wing tips or pogos (wing supports) of the aircraft. So the mobile acts as a pair of eyes for the pilot, guiding him safely down the runway, making sure that the wings don't hit any obstacles and the pogos fall during lift-off.

"Taking off is sort of like an amusement park ride. There is a lot of thrust and lift. It is pretty thrilling," McCann said.

The aircraft gets up to altitude

A large black U-2 spy plane is parked on a tarmac. Two ground crew members in orange safety vests are visible near the plane. The background shows a clear blue sky and distant mountains.

ssion soars

very quickly because of its body shape. Long, wide, straight wings make it glider-like, and it has been recently upgraded with a lighter engine that cuts weight and increases power. The pilots remain airborne for six to nine hours where they can relax and turn on the autopilot. But even the most seasoned pilot can have trouble and the pilots deal with that when it happens.

"It would distract the pilot if he did worry," Neddo said.

And as Capt. Quinn Gummel, 99th Reconnaissance Squadron, Beale AFB, would tell you, a pilot cannot be distracted. "In this airplane you need to be confident and fly aggressively. You have to be on your best game. It will turn and bite you if you're not paying attention."

However, even on their best game, pilots cannot always control the aircraft. Turbulence along with the plane's eagerness to continue ascending is a major threat to the plane and the pilot.

"The plane is not designed to do aerobatics. The turbulence upsets it and the autopilot can get knocked off," Neddo said.

The most severe, although uncommon, consequence of the turbulence is an accident. The turbulence could actually cause the plane to break up. In this case, the wings will fold up and over the cockpit, which can be extremely dangerous, because they can then fall on the ejected pilot. But the pilots have been trained for this and show no apprehension.

"If you have to eject, the suit will protect you from decompression. You stay in your seat and fall down to altitude and then the parachute will extend. I wouldn't feel uncomfortable if I had to get out," Gummel said.

"I don't worry. I believe if it is your time to go, it's your time to go," Neddo said.

After all that might have happened during the flight, the roughest part is still to come.

"(During flight) it is usually very quiet and peaceful. You kind of get in groove with the airplane," McCann

said. "Then when you come down to land it is like a small boat on a rough sea."

Pilots agree that the hardest part of the flight is the last few minutes when they are trying to land the plane.

"The wings are very efficient and (the U-2) doesn't want to land, pilots really have to be on top of it. Your heart stops beating and you start to perspire because you are so close to home but you have to keep it all together," he added. "You are earning your pay that day."

Again a mobile officer chases behind the U-2 when landing. Besides the wings being a challenge, the plane only has one set of wheels in the center of the belly. The mobile officer has communica-

tion with the pilot and tells the pilot when he is only a couple feet off of the ground to help the pilot know when he can stall the plane out, allowing the tail wheel to drop down to the runway. From there, the pilot steers the plane until the plane has come to a stop and the pogos have been attached to the wings of the plane, steadying them.

A large crowd waits to congratulate the pilot on his successful mission with his favorite beverage marks the conclusion of the flight.

"It is an old tradition from the very first sortie to hand a beverage to the pilot after his mission," Neddo said.

"Everybody takes part. Guys even come in on their day off," Kern said.

Then the pilot is done for the day, only to come in again the next day and possibly have another flight.

Each pilot flies about three missions a week and works almost seven days a week.

McCann who worked for four weeks and had one-half of a day off said "People feel satisfied with what we do and they work very hard."

But working nonstop is what the unit is accustomed to doing.

"We have been in Korea for 25 years without a break. We are essential in keeping peace and shaping the future," Kern said.



Lt. Col. Don Baltrusaitis, 99th RS is greeted by a group of pilots after finishing a mission.

"You kind of feel detached from the cares of the world. You have a God's eye perspective of earth. You don't see any boundaries, political or manmade,"

**Maj. Guy Neddo,
5th Reconnaissance Squadron**

Preparing pilots for flight is a...

Team Effort

Story and photos by Pfc. Nicole C. Adams

Almost as important as the pilot to the U-2 launch is the 9th Physiological Support Training Squadron. Those highly essential U-2 missions would not be possible without the life support team located on Osan Air Base.

The team is composed of two career fields, life support and aerospace physiology, and is responsible for maintenance and upkeep of the pilots' pressure suits, along with preparing the pilot for flight.

"Without the suit and without us maintaining it, they wouldn't be able to fly and survive if there was an emergency," said Staff Sgt. Mandeep P. Joval, 9th PSPTS.

The technicians responsible for the preservation of the suit go through 360 hours of accidental and practical training where they learn launch and recovery procedures for suiting up and undressing the pilots, and how to secure them into the aircraft comfortably and safely.

"The job is extremely challenging. It's a real comprehensive course. So many details with suit can be a little intimidating but with training we are fully qualified," Joval said.

Before flights and all through the year, the suits go through multiple tests to ensure safety and effectiveness.

There is a series of preflight and postflight checks and inspections prior to a mission. Operational and visual checks are performed, as well as checking for bad seals

and pressurization.

The team replaces any screws or missing pieces and sews any tears.

Every four years, technicians take apart each suit piece-by-piece for a complete inspection. They are responsible for more than 200 suits and each has to be inspected. The technicians stress how crucial the suits' effectiveness is.

Knowing that the suit is safe for the pilot, the technicians begin the process to suit up the pilot. The pilot comes in an hour and is minutes prior to take off and the technicians begin to literally dress him.

Already clad in a long-john type undergarment, the pilot is lead to a chair to sit down and begin.

The suit has been pre-positioned so that the pilot can step into the suit while inserting his arms at the same time.

From there, the pilot is done. The technicians zip, tie, pull and button many openings and apply his helmet, and he is dressed.

The pilot then moves to a recliner where he is hooked up to an oxygen machine for an hour and the technicians run a series of tests to check leak rates and pressurization.

When all is well, the technicians escort the pilot to his aircraft and strap him in, ensuring the lap belt and shoulder harness are secure and that the pilot is comfortable.

"Everything is vital. The suit is the last resort for the pilot so you have to know your job. But we are fully qualified and it has become second nature," Joval said.

But more important than the suit is the technician working on it.

"We are here to make sure our pilot is going to come down safely and live to fly another day," Joval said.



Senior Airman Vanessa J. Leguillow, aerospace physiology technician, talks to Maj. Dennis Davoren while checking pressure levels.



Senior Airman Shannon L. Wootten straps Maj. Jeff Olesen into his aircraft, adjusting for comfort and checking for safety and effectiveness before he departs for his mission.

Seoul Land



Pfc. Edgar R. Gonzalez

by Pfc. Kim, Chan Hle & Pfc. Edgar R. Gonzalez

Just a short subway ride from Yongsan, Seoul Land amusement park has the charm and excitement to quench most anyone's thirst for thrills. Whether you're a child with roller blades or you want to fly without the benefit of an airplane, it has what you need.

"Seoul Land reminds me of Disney Land without the long lines and without the high prices," said Pfc. David E. Crimmins, a combat engineer with C Company, 44th Engineering Battalion, Camp Howze.

Once in, you are free to roam through Seoul Land's over 40 rides and spectacles that are spread out over five areas – Adventure Land, World Plaza, Tomorrow Land, Samchulli Land and Fantasy Land.

The Spy-X Coaster in Tomorrow Land lets you swing like a pendulum through the air from a height of 55 meters as you reach speeds of up to 70 mph. Tomorrow Land also dares you with the Shot 'N Drop, a ride where you sit on a disc that falls freely and quickly down a 50-meter tower.

To get there, take the Blue Line (Line 4) to Seoul Land Station, stop #37.

Before closing each night, Seoul Land puts on a dazzling theatrical light show filled with dancing, smoke and even a giant 30-foot dragon.



Courtesy Photo

A couple enjoys the Flume ride as it splashes toward a halt after falling down a steep slope while the Pirata King Viking hoists many screaming riders up, up and up before letting them swing away in the background.

During the evening light show, the princess lights a torch of hope before being unsuccessfully attacked by a giant dragon.

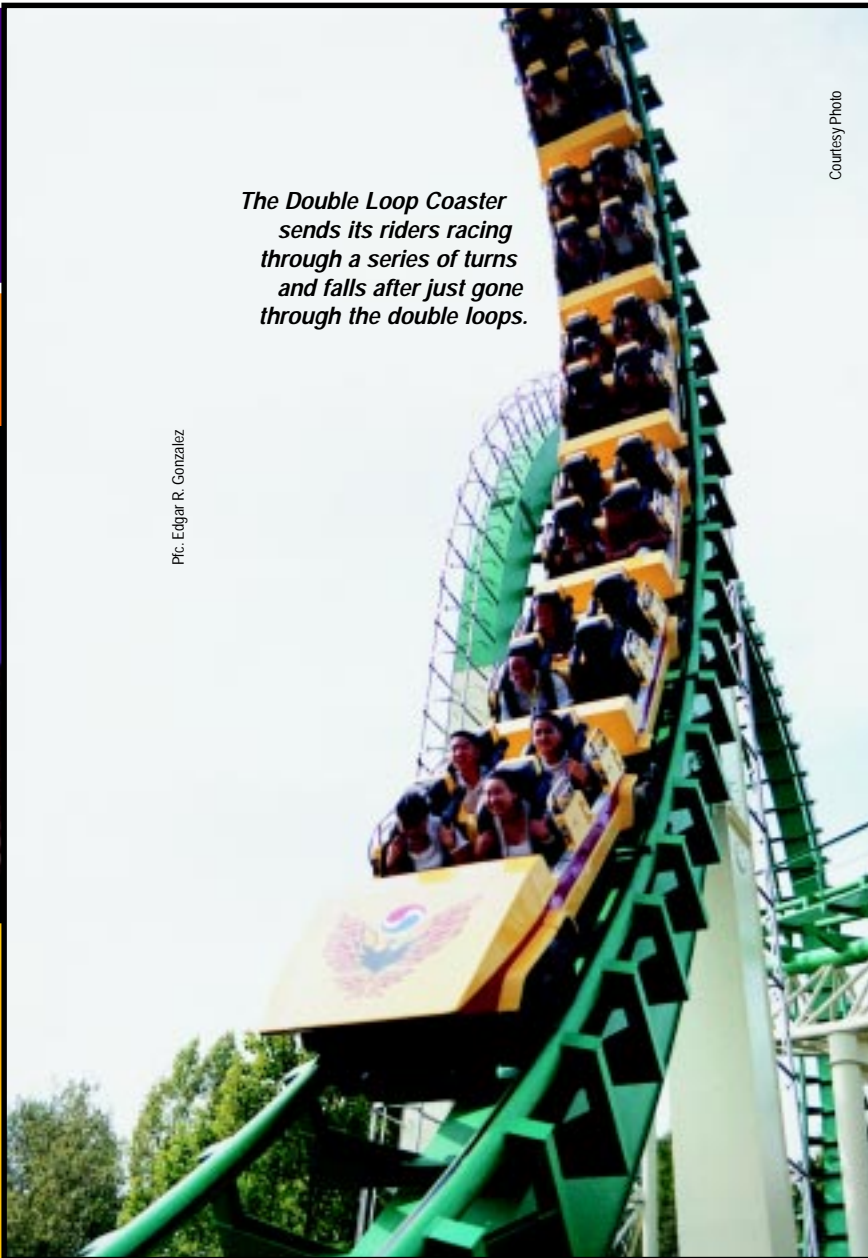


Admission Prices (Won)

General Admission	6,000 (Adult)
	4,000 (Child)
Shot N' Drop	4,000 (Adult)
	3,000 (Child)
Spy-X Coaster	15,000 (for 1)
	20,000 (for 2)
	25,000 (for 3)

The Double Loop Coaster sends its riders racing through a series of turns and falls after just gone through the double loops.

Pfc. Edgar R. Gonzalez



Courtesy Photo



Pfc. Edgar R. Gonzalez

Children wave at their parents as they whiz by on the Rock Cafe.

Petrosky reflects before departing Korea

Story by Sgt. John R. Rozean

On a sunny Korean afternoon outside the United States Forces Korea Headquarters, the Eighth United States Army Change of Command Ceremony participants practiced their individual contributions to an event due to take place in a couple of days on Yongsan's Knight Field. But inside the building, the man due to pass the EUSA Colors on that very field in two days was still hard at work tidying up his last remaining Eighth Army duties.

In an office nearly cleared of all of the tokens gathered from a long and successful military career, outgoing EUSA Commanding General, Lt. Gen. Daniel J. Petrosky, took time to reflect on his command as well as the anticipated career transition that was just around the corner.

Before completing his second tour on the Korean peninsula, he reflected on the significance of serving here, for him as well as the soldiers of Eighth Army. "I think the good thing about serving in Korea is the opportunity to understand and embrace another culture, to learn more about this world we live in, (and) to do it in such a wonderful place where the Korean people are so warm, caring and giving.

"When I leave here I will have spent nearly five and a half years in this country. Everyday of it has been

wonderful. Some of it has been very challenging. Being a soldier in Korea is challenging."

Realizing the challenges faced by Eighth Army soldiers before he ever took command, Petrosky said he has tried to make it easier for soldiers to maximize their successes here. "This is a tough assignment for soldiers. They are far away from home, they are separated from their families, and for many soldiers this may be their first assignment after coming out of Advanced Individual Training."

He said that as a leader, he felt that he owed "these great soldiers" of Eighth Army, as well as their families, a successful tour in Korea. He said that when he first took over the EUSA command he tried to instill this same obligation within all the commands of Eighth U.S. Army. He said he wanted

"Many people don't have the commitment that our soldiers have. I know it is difficult. I know it is tough. But, we're working hard to make it better."

Lt. Gen. Daniel J. Petrosky



each soldier who came to Korea to "make a difference for the Republic of Korea, make a difference for their country and also make a difference for themselves."

He said that not only was he proud of the accomplishments of Eighth Army's U.S. soldiers, he was also proud of the contributions of the

Korean Augmentees to the United States Army – known to most as KATUSAs and to Petrosky as "excellent, excellent soldiers."

"When I was here before as a company commander, I was first introduced to KATUSAs. They made my life as a company commander much easier," he said.

"The KATUSA soldiers really are something that the Republic of Korea Army can be very proud of."

Such tributes mean a lot coming from Petrosky, who has spent more than 30 years in the military. And he could be considered an expert in judging soldiering excellence based upon his own success as well as experience.

He came into the Army during Vietnam in June 1966.

"My number was called, and I went," he said, joking that he didn't choose the Army, that it chose him. "But, I really did choose (the Army) after that."

He said that his choice was "much like our soldiers entering the service today. Not as many opportunities were available to me in the civilian (world), and for me, a big door was opened. It was a great opportunity that I certainly did not know about until I

walked in the front door of the Army, and I haven't looked back. And many of those same opportunities still exist today.

He said soldiers in Korea are "doing something that many people wouldn't do.

Many people don't have the commitment that our soldiers have. I know it is difficult. I know it is tough. But, we're working hard to make it better."

"Thanks," he said to each EUSA soldier, "for doing what our nation has asked you to do. (You) are serving the United States of America and doing it well."